Pre-CERCLA Screening Checklist/Decision Form

This form is used in conjunction with a site map and any additional information required by the EPA Region to document completion of a Pre-CERCLA Screening (PCS). The form includes a decision on whether a site should be added to the Superfund program's active site inventory for further investigation. This checklist replaces Attachment A in the December 2016 PCS Guidance document. A current version of the PCS checklist and additional information is available at: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/pre-cercla-screening.

Region: 2 **State/Territory:** NY **Tribe:** NYD001493857 (EPA ID No. (If Available))

Site Name: Coney Island Electroplating Works

Other Site Name(s):

Site Location: 2702 Stillwell Ave. (Street)

8 (Congressional District) Brooklyn (City) NY (State/Terr.) (County) 11224 - 2722 (Zip+4) ☐ (No Zip Available)

If no street address is available: (Township-Range) (Section)

Checklist Preparer:

Scott T. Snyder (Name / Title) 06/25/2020 (Date)

Weston Solutions, Inc. (Organization) (732) 417-5828 (Phone)

205 Campus Drive (Street) s.snyder@westonsolutions.com e-Mail

Edison (City) NJ (State/Terr.) (County) 08837- (Zip+4)

Site Contact Info/Mailing Address: Owner: Stillwell Avenue Associates (Contact: Carmela Logozzo); Operator: Stillwell Plumbing Supply, 2702 Stillwell Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11224, (718) 513-6373

CERCLA 105d Petition for Preliminary Assessment? No **If Yes, Petition Date (mm/dd/yyyy):**

RCRA Subtitle C Site Status: Is site in RCRA Info? No **If Yes, RCRA Info Handler ID #:**

Ownership Type: Private **Additional RCRA Info ID #(s):**

Site Type: Manufacturing/Processing/Maintenance **State ID #(s):**

Site Sub-Type: Metal fabrication/finishing/coating & allie **Other ID #(s):**

Federal Facility? No **Federal Facility Owner:** (Make selection)

Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS)? No

Federal Facility Docket? No **If Yes, FF Docket Listing Date (mm/dd/yyyy):**

Federal Facility Docket Reporting Mechanism: (Make selection)

Native American Interest? No **If Yes, list Tribe:**

Additional Tribe (s): (Make Selection)

Additional Tribe (s): (Make Selection)

Site Description

Use this section to briefly describe site background and conditions if known or (easily) available, such as: operational history; physical setting and land use; site surface description, soils, geology and hydrogeology; source and waste characteristics; hazardous substances/contaminants of concern; historical releases, previous investigations and cleanup activities; previous regulatory actions, including permitting and enforcement actions; institutional controls; and community interest.

There is currently minimal information regarding the operational time frame for the former Coney Island Electroplating Works (CIEW) facility. A Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from 1930 indicates that the property was occupied by a laundry. A picture and a brief statement in a magazine article indicates that CIEW filled unspecified defense orders during World War II, suggesting electroplating operations were active in the early- to mid-1940s. A Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from 1950 shows the electroplating facility occupying the site. CIEW is listed in EPA's RCRAInfo database under Handler ID No. NYD001493857. The facility was designated as a Large Quantity Generator (LQG) in December 1980. The latest RCRAInfo update was April 2015. The types of wastes generated at the facility included spent cyanide plating bath solutions and residues (RCRA Waste Codes: F007, F008, and F009). As of 2006, the facility was listed as a non-generator. The site is currently occupied by a plumbing supply store.

Geospatial Information

Latitude: 40.581038° **Longitude:** -73.982541°

Decimal Degree North (e.g., 38.859156) **Decimal Degree West (e.g., 77.036783)**

Provide 4 significant digits at a minimum, more if your collection method generates them.

Except for certain territories in the Pacific Ocean, all sites in U.S. states and territories are located within the northern and western hemispheres and will have a positive latitude sign and negative longitude sign. Coordinate signs displayed above are based on the State/Territory entry on page A-1. Geospatial data tips from the PCS Guidance document are available **here.**

Point Description: Select the option below that best represents the site point for future reference and to distinguish it from any nearby sites. See additional information **here.**

- ☐ Geocoded (address-matched) Site Address
- ☐ Site Entrance (approximate center of curb-cut)
- ☒ Approximate Center of Site
- ☐ Other Distinguishing Site Feature (briefly describe):

Point Collection Method: Check the method used to collect the coordinates above and enter the date of collection. See additional information **here.**

- ☐ Online Map Interpolation
- ☐ GPS (handheld, smartphone, other device or technology with accuracy range < 25 meters)
- ☐ GPS Other (accuracy range is ≥ 25 meters or unspecified)
- ☐ Address Matching: Urban
- ☐ Address Matching: Rural
- ☒ Other Method (briefly describe below):

Google Earth

Collection Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 06/25/2020

POINT-SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS

- Often the best point is a feature associated with the environmental release or that identifies the site visually.
- Use the curb cut of the entrance to the site if there is a clear primary entrance and it is a good identifier for the overall location.
- The approximate center of the site (a guess at the centroid) is useful for large-area sites or where there are no appropriate distinguishing features.
- Use the geocoded address if that is the only or best option available, but if possible use something more representative for sites larger than 50 acres.

Complete this checklist to help determine if a site should be added to the Superfund Active site inventory. See Section 3.6 of the PCS guidance for additional information.	YES	NO	Unknown
1. An initial search for the site in EPA's Superfund active, archive and non-site inventories should be performed prior to starting a PCS. Is this a new site that does not already exist in these site inventories?	☒	☐	☐
2. Is there evidence of an actual release or a potential to release?	☐	☐	☒
3. Are there possible targets that could be impacted by a release of contamination at the site?	☒	☐	☐
4. Is there documentation indicating that a target has been exposed to a hazardous substance released from the site?	☐	☐	☒
5. Is the release of a naturally occurring substance in its unaltered form, or is it altered solely through naturally occurring processes or phenomena, from a location where it is naturally found?	☐	☒	☐
6. Is the release from products which are part of the structure of, and result in exposure within, residential buildings or business or community structures?	☐	☒	☐
7. If there has been a release into a public or private drinking water supply, is it due to deterioration of the system through ordinary use?	☐	☒	☐
8. Are the hazardous substances possibly released at the site, or is the release itself, excluded from being addressed under CERCLA?	☐	☒	☐
9. Is the site being addressed under RCRA corrective action or by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission?	☐	☒	☐
10. Is another federal, state, tribe or local government environmental cleanup program other than site assessment actively involved with the site (e.g., state voluntary cleanup program)?	☐	☒	☐
11. Is there sufficient documentation or evidence that demonstrates there is no likelihood of a significant release that could cause adverse environmental or human health impacts?	☐	☒	☐
12. Are there other site-specific situations or factors that warrant further CERCLA remedial/integrated assessment or response?	☐	☒	☐

Preparer's Recommendation: ☒ **Add** site to the Superfund Active site inventory.

☐ **Do not add** site to the Superfund Active site inventory.

Please explain recommendation below:

PCS Summary and Decision Rationale

Use this section to summarize PCS findings and support the decision to add or not add the site to the Superfund active site inventory for further investigation. Information does not need to be specific but, where known, can include key factors such as source and waste characteristics (e.g., drums, contaminated soil); evidence of release or potential release; threatened targets (e.g., drinking water wells); key sampling results (if available); CERCLA eligibility; involvement of other cleanup programs; and other supporting factors. Attach additional pages as necessary.

The former Coney Island Electroplating Works (CIEW) facility was located approximately 260 feet west-southwest of Coney Island Creek. The exact dates of operation are currently unknown; however, evidence suggests the facility operated as long ago as the early- to mid-1940s. CIEW is listed in EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information System (RCRAInfo) database under Handler ID No. NYD001493857. The facility was designated as a Large Quantity Generator (LQG) in December 1980. The latest RCRAInfo update for the facility was April 2015. The types of wastes generated at the facility included spent cyanide plating bath solutions and residues (RCRA Waste Codes: F007, F008, and F009). In addition to cyanide, electroplating baths generate a wastestream that contains a variety of inorganic constituents, which are known to be contaminants of concern in the creek sediments.

Scott T. Snyder, CHMM	EPA contractor	06/25/2020
Checklist Preparer Name	**Checklist Preparer Organization**	**Date**

EPA Regional Review and Pre-CERCLA Screening Decision

Add site to the Superfund active site inventory for completion of a:

- ☐ Standard/full preliminary assessment (PA)
- ☐ Abbreviated preliminary assessment (APA)
- ☒ Combined preliminary assessment/site inspection (PA/SI)
- ☐ Inegrated removal assessment and preliminary assessment
- ☐ Integrated removal assessment and combined PA/SI
- ☐ Other: _____

Do not add site to the Superfund active site inventory. Site is:

- ☐ Not a valid site or incident
- ☐ Being addressed by EPA's removal program
- ☐ Being addressed by a state cleanup program
- ☐ Being addressed by a tribal cleanup program
- ☐ Being addressed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- ☐ Being addressed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- ☐ Other: _____

Optional - Print name of EPA Site Assessor making this decision: _____

EPA Regional Approval: (Enter Date and then click this box to initiate digital signature stamp) James Desir — **Date** 7/28/20

Site Description

(All text as entered on page A-2)

There is currently minimal information regarding the operational time frame for the former Coney Island Electroplating Works (CIEW) facility. A Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from 1930 indicates that the property was occupied by a laundry. A picture and a brief statement in a magazine article indicates that CIEW filled unspecified defense orders during World War II, suggesting electroplating operations were active in the early- to mid-1940s. A Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from 1950 shows the electroplating facility occupying the site. CIEW is listed in EPA's RCRAInfo database under Handler ID No. NYD001493857. The facility was designated as a Large Quantity Generator (LQG) in December 1980. The latest RCRAInfo update was April 2015. The types of wastes generated at the facility included spent cyanide plating bath solutions and residues (RCRA Waste Codes: F007, F008, and F009). As of 2006, the facility was listed as a non-generator. The site is currently occupied by a plumbing supply store.

Electroplating involves depositing a thin layer of metal onto an oppositely charged substrate by passing an electric current through a solution called an electrolyte. When the electric current flows through the circuit, the electrolyte splits up and some of the metal atoms it contains are deposited in a thin layer on top of one of the electrodes. All the constituents of the plating baths contribute to the wastewater stream. In addition to the cyanide mentioned above, electroplating baths may contain a variety of heavy metals, including copper, nickel, gold, zinc, chromium (including hexavalent chromium), selenium, lead, or iron. The Coney Island Electroplating Works facility was located approximately 260 feet west-southwest of Coney Island Creek. Inorganic constituents are known to be contaminants of concern in creek sediments. Combined and separated municipal sewers in the area are known to discharge to Coney Island Creek.

PCS Summary and Decision Rationale

(All text as entered on page A-4)

The former Coney Island Electroplating Works (CIEW) facility was located approximately 260 feet west-southwest of Coney Island Creek. The exact dates of operation are currently unknown; however, evidence suggests the facility operated as long ago as the early- to mid-1940s. CIEW is listed in EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information System (RCRAInfo) database under Handler ID No. NYD001493857. The facility was designated as a Large Quantity Generator (LQG) in December 1980. The latest RCRAInfo update for the facility was April 2015. The types of wastes generated at the facility included spent cyanide plating bath solutions and residues (RCRA Waste Codes: F007, F008, and F009). In addition to cyanide, electroplating baths generate a wastestream that contains a variety of inorganic constituents, which are known to be contaminants of concern in the creek sediments.

Coney Island Creek is utilized for a variety of recreational activities, including boating and birding. Four city parks are located adjacent to the western portion of the creek near the mouth at Gravesend Bay, with a combined 1.1 miles of shoreline of varying accessibility. Although not an officially sanctioned use of the creek, primary contact in the form of swimming and baptisms have been reported along the sandy southwestern shoreline of the creek near Gravesend Bay. Although the presence of chemical and biological contamination in the creek is well known, Coney Island Creek is fished for human consumption. Species of fish caught for consumption include mullet, porgy, striped bass, fluke, and bluefish. There is one permanent residence situated directly on the creek shoreline, as well as multiple encampments populated by homeless people. Sensitive environments subject to potential contamination along the 15-mile surface water pathway include habitat known to be used by three Federal-designated and six State-designated threatened or endangered species, approximately 62 miles of wetland frontage, the New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary, and the Gateway National Recreation Area.

Given the proximity of the former facility to the creek; the likely discharge of metals-contaminated wastewater; the facility's former designation as an LQG; the discharge of the municipal sewer system to Coney Island Creek; the lack of background information regarding site operations and waste disposal practices; and the use of Coney Island Creek for consumption fishing and recreation, the Former Coney Island Electroplating Works site is recommended to be added to the Superfund Active site inventory as a possible source of contamination to Coney Island Creek.